

AF/ IFW

03500.013649 (35.C13649)

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
MASAHIDE HIRASAWA)	Examiner: Brian C. Genco
Appln. No.: 09/348,500)	Group Art Unit: 2615
Filed: July 7, 1999)	
For: IMAGE PICKUP CONTROL)	
APPARATUS, IMAGE PICKUP)	
CONTROL METHOD, IMAGE)	
PICKUP CONTROL SYSTEM, AND)	
STORAGE MEDIUM)	October 22, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FOURTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed Japanese patent document is also enclosed.

REMARKS

According to a commercial database, JP-A-10-285246 is in the family of European Patent Document 0 859 326, which was cited in the January 8, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement, and commonly-assigned U.S. Patent Appln. Publication No. 2003/0158979 A1, filed February 17, 1998. An English-language Abstract was obtained from a commercial database and is also enclosed.

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUSLY-CITED DOCUMENT

The document "IEEE 1394 - das Tor zu Multimedia, September, 1997, pages 54 and 56" was listed on the Form PTO-1449 accompanying the July 23, 2002 Information Disclosure Statement. A line was drawn through this citation on the copy of the Form PTO-1449 returned with the December 19, 2003 Official Action.

While the document "IEEE 1394 - das Tor zu Multimedia, September, 1997, pages 54 and 56" is in a foreign language, it is discussed in a search report issued by the European Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of the European search report was included with the July 23, 2002 Information Disclosure Statement.

As set forth at MPEP § 609 III A(3):

Where the information listed is not in the English language, but was cited in a search report or other action in a counterpart foreign application, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance can be satisfied by submitting an English-language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The European search report is in the English language and indicates the degree of relevance found by the European Patent Office.

Accordingly, consideration of the document "IEEE 1394 - das Tor zu Multimedia, September, 1997, pages 54 and 56" is believed to be proper, and such action is courteously solicited. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the Form PTO-1449 which accompanied the July 23, 2002 Information Disclosure Statement, together with copies of the document "IEEE 1394 - das Tor zu Multimedia, September, 1997, pages 54 and 56" and the European search report, is enclosed.

FORMAL MATTERS

No fee is believed due; however, any fee required in connection with this paper should be charged to Deposit Account 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Submitted: October 22, 2004			ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.013649 (35.C13649)		APPLICATION NO. 09/348,500	
			APPLICANT MASAHIDE HIRASAWA			
			FILING DATE July 7, 1999		GROUP 2615	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	2003/0158979 A1	08/21/2003	Tateyama et al.	710	33	02/17/1998	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		
10-285246	10/23/1998	Japan			Abstract		

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1

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